

1 **50688/WWM/S787**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Screen (10) for a user interface of a television schedule
system and process consists of an array (24) of irregular
cells (26), which vary in length, corresponding to different
television program lengths of one half hour to one-and-one
10 (28) of one-half hour in duration, and twelve rows (30) of
program listings. Some of the program listings overlap two or
more of the columns (28) because of their length. Because of
the widely varying length of the cells (26), if a conventional
cursor used to select a cell location were to simply step from
15 one cell to another, the result would be abrupt changes in the
screen (10) as the cursor moved from a cell (26) of several
hours length to an adjacent cell in the same row. An effective
way of taming the motion is to assume that behind every array
(24) is an underlying array of regular cells. By restricting
20 cursor movements to the regular cells, abrupt screen changes
will be avoided. With the cursor (32), the entire cell (26) is
3-D highlighted, using a conventional offset shadow (34). The
offset shadow (34) is a black bar that underlines the entire
cell and wraps around the right edge of the cell. To tag the
25 underlying position--which defines where the cursor (32) is
and thus, where it will move next--portions (36) of the black
bar outside the current underlying position are segmented,
while the current position is painted solid.

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